

## **Programme of governmental support of NGOs in the years 2004 – 2006**

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, thereafter MEYS, every year proclaims Governmental support Programmes of working with children and youth for non-governmental non-profit youth organizations, thereafter NGOs. Compared to the last years the new grant policy of the MEYS is significantly adjusted in this sphere. The approved Programme of governmental support in working with children and youth for NGOs for the years 2004 until 2006 differs from the present grant policy of MEYS in several aspects:

- The Programme is proclaimed for three years period, during which no considerable changes are expected neither of its content nor of its orientation, unless justice precepts, in which the proclaimed Programme goes by, will not change.
- The Programme focuses at three topical spheres resulting from the governmental policy concepts for children and youth till the year 2007. The first sphere includes support of the basic activities of children and youth NGOs, the second sphere aims at developing chosen areas of children and youth work following by particular governmental policy directions, the third one intents on support of development of material technical bases of children and youth out of school activities.
- NGOs, which submit their projects to the first topical sphere of the Programme along with the intention of improving their organization in the period 2004 – 2006 and will be chosen, can receive from the MEYS the status of a certified NGO. It will allow simplified introduction of the projects during the course of the Programme. In this way the Programme guarantees financial support to basic activities from MEYS while the Programme is running.
- Within framework of the Programme the number of terms for submitting projects applications was increased. Contrary to the former Programmes in the preceding period it is allowed to present projects in two terms in the course of calendar year.
- The Programme is drafted in accord with The Operational Programme of human sources development, which determines conditions for submitting projects and withdrawing financial means from the European Social Fund after joining EU in May 2004. Such cohesion will allow incorporating the particular areas of children and youth work also to the projects that will apply for the support from the structural EU fund.
- The first topical sphere is focused on support of children and youth work performed in children and youth NGOs. The financial support is mostly given to competent applicants for direct work with children and youth and for other activities of organization. Within the framework of the new MEYS strategy approaching NGOs in first year it is allowed for them to present a general activity purpose and anticipatory budget to its realization within three years. In the future the NGOs will be also obliged to present yearly a detailed project for next calendar year. The “accredited” applicant in the Program will not have to present for example its statutes in next two years period. He will only have to update the already given information. At the same time this procedure makes a certain guarantee for NGOs, that their project will be supported during the Program.
- The second topical sphere is dedicated to fundamental forms of work with unorganised children and youth and it allows submitting projects to spheres outreaching the basic

activities of NGOs and incorporated into the first topical sphere. The proposed conditions should allow organizations to ask for a financial support for projects not only in the traditional autumn term, but also in the course of the year.

- The third topical sphere is focused on support of development of material technical bases of children and youth out of school activities. In contradiction to the previous two spheres there will be rendering investment financial means for children and youth NGOs. These means will be intended for reconstruction the objects and other facilities, in which NGOs work, and also for machine equipment. It is newly presupposed to support necessary reconstruction of objects that were without charge made over to NGOs within the framework of liquidation of the Children and Youth Fund.
- The new Programme of governmental support in working with children and youth for NGOs for the years 2004 until 2006 completes the governmental resolution from April 7, 2003 No. 343 on the governmental policy concept on children and youth through 2007. It also follows up with the priority areas defined by the White Paper of the European Commission on Youth that has been taken up in November 21, 2001.
- The proclaimed Programme corresponds to the Act No. 218/2000 Coll. on National budget regulation and to the resolution No. 114 from February 2, 2001 on governmental principles for providing support to NGOs from the national budget by state administrative bodies. The Programme also reflects the governmental resolution on The Main direction of governmental policy towards NGOs for the year 2004, which is being under preparation. Respect to annual priorities of the grant policy there might be slight amendments of The Programme during its course.
- The Department of European Integration has participated on preparation of the material. There was established a working group formed by representatives of the Department for Youth Affairs, umbrella organizations the Czech Council of Children and Youth, the Circle of Children and Youth Associations and Youth and the Children and Youth Institute. The grant policy thesis was discussed also within the Chamber of Youth, advisory body to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.